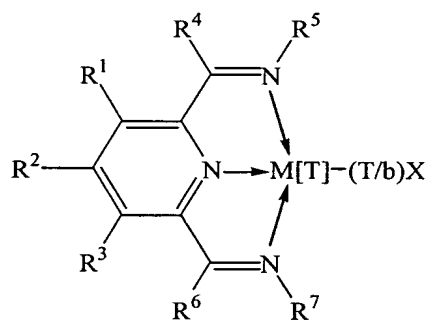


ABSTRACTCATALYST PREPARATION METHOD

A process for the preparation of a supported catalyst is disclosed, comprising the steps of

- a) contacting a support material containing 1-10 % water with a trialkylaluminium compound; and
- b) contacting the resulting material with a complex of the formula (I)



Formula (I)

wherein  $M$  is Fe[II], Fe[III], Co[I], Co[II], Co[III], Mn[I], Mn[II], Mn[III], Mn[IV], Ru[II], Ru[III] or Ru[IV];  $X$  represents an atom or group covalently or ionically bonded to the transition metal  $M$ ;  $T$  is the oxidation state of the transition metal  $M$  and  $b$  is the valency of the atom or group  $X$ ;  $R^1$  to  $R^7$  are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl, heterohydrocarbyl, substituted heterohydrocarbyl or  $SiR'_3$  where each  $R'$  is independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl, heterohydrocarbyl, substituted heterohydrocarbyl.